

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OUAGAD 02799 262235Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00
EB-08 AID-05 OMB-01 SP-02 XMB-02 STR-04 /071 W
-----087232 270110Z /63

R 261209Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4546
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 2799

USEEC FOR EC BRUSSELS

USMTN FOR MTN GENEVA

E.O. 11652: N/A
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OUAGAD 02799 262235Z

TAGS: ECIN, EGEN, UV
SUBJECT: ECOWAS

REF: STATE 159681

1. RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO PARA 2 OF REFTTEL:

A. UPPER VOLTA IS TOO POOR TO MAKE MORE THAN A TOKEN CONTRIBUTION OF TIME AND RESOURCES TO ECOWAS, BUT NOTHING MORE IS LIKELY TO BE EXPECTED. IN UPPER VOLTA, DOMESTIC NEEDS MUST COME FIRST. FOR ITS RESOURCES, ECOWAS WILL HAVE TO RELY ON THE RELATIVELY WEALTHY MEMBER STATES.

B. YES. THE CEAO HEADQUARTERS ARE IN OUAGADOUGOU AND UPPER VOLTA WILL WANT TO STRENGTHEN ECOWAS ONLY IN WAYS THAT ARE COMPLEMENTARY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CEAO. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA SAYS THAT ECOWAS CAN BENEFIT FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CEAO UNTIL THE DAY WHEN (AND IF) ECOWAS IS READY TO ABSORB THE CEAO AS A PORT OF THE LARGER UNION.

C. UPPER VOLTA, WITH ITS C.F.A. FRANC BACKED UP BY THE FRENCH FRANC, CAN EASILY PARTICIPATE IN ANY PROGRAM TO SIMPLIFY MONEY TRANSFERS. THE OVERVALUED AND SOMETIMES WORTHLESS CURRENCIES OF SOME OTHER MEMBER STATES WILL CERTAINLY DELAY THE INTEGRATION OF THE ECONOMIES OF THE ECOWAS STATES. THE WACH WAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, BUT ITS SUCCESS WILL DEPEND SIGNIFICANTLY ON THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE INDIVIDUAL STATES.

D. UPPER VOLTA HAS ONLY MINIMAL TELECOMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION LINKS AT PRESENT WITH THE NEIGHBORING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 OUAGAD 02799 262235Z

COUNTRIES. SOME PROJECTS ALREADY STARTED OR PLANNED WILL HELP, BUT A GREAT DEAL NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE TRADE WILL GROW SUBSTANTIALLY. UPPER VOLTA PARTICULARLY NEEDS VASTLY EXPANDED AIR FREIGHT SERVICES TO MOVE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO POTENTIAL MARKETS, AND NEEDS ANOTHER LAND ROUTE TO THE SEA TO SUPPLEMENT THE RAILROAD TO ABIDJAN.

E. UPPER VOLTA'S TRADE STRUCTURE IS LARGELY COMPETITIVE WITH ITS SAHELIAN NEIGHBORS AND COMPLEMENTARY WITH THE COASTAL STATES.

F. MOST FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN UPPER VOLTA WILL SIMPLY BE AIMED AT MEETING BASIC DOMESTIC NEEDS AND WILL HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON ITS ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS. THERE WILL BE SOME COMPETITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SUGAR INDUSTRY THE DESIRE FOR EACH COUNTRY TO IMPROVE ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION THROUGH INDUSTRIAL IMPORT SUBSTITUTION WILL CERTAINLY LEAD TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

G. YES, AS LONG AS NOTHING MORE THAN A TOKEN CONTRIBUTION IS ASKED.

H. ROUGHLY 45 PERCENT AND GROWING SLOWLY.

I. IF THE MAJOR SOURCES OF FUNDS SUCH AS NIGERIA AND THE
IVORY COAST CONTRIBUTE GENEROULSLY ENOUGH, THE LOSS OF
CUSTOMS REVENUE CAN BE COMPENSATED. CORRECTION OF THE
UNBALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION WILL TAKE MANY DECADES.

J. CONSIDERING THE ECONOMIC CHAOS IN SOME MEMBER STATES,
THE ECOWAS GOALS SEEM TO US TO BE UNREALISTIC.

K. YES. THE INCORPORATION OF MARKETS SUCH AS UPPER
VOLTA'S, PRESENTLY TOO SMALL TO BE INTERESTING TO MANY
COMPANIES, INTO A SINGLE, RELATIVELY LARGE MARKET,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 OUAGAD 02799 262235Z

WILL CERTAINLY MAKE IT MORE PROFITABLE FOR US
BUSINESS TO TRADE AND INVEST HERE.

L. THE FUND WILL PROBABLY BE A USEFUL VEHICLE FOR
AID TO THE REGION. GRAHAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OUAGAD02799
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770267-0032
Format: TEL
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770718/aaaaapmu.tel
Line Count: 141
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 44e60d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 159681
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1746559
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECOWAS
TAGS: ECIN, EGEN, UV, ECOWAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/44e60d64-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009